



SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

FOR A MEETING OF SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 6TH March 2024 AT 5PM
@ COUNCIL CHAMBER

Apologies for Absence:

Emmanuella, Sarah, Ellis, Eliza, Sophie

Youth Mayor, Deputy Youth Mayor & Member of Youth Parliament Updates:

Tom: attended the Neurodivergence meeting, helping out with Make Your Mark

Edward: Has been helping out with Make Your Mark, apologises for not being able to attend Neurodivergence meeting.

Jocelyn: Unable to attend meeting due to being at Parliament with Madi.

Reminder:

No food or drink (other than water) is allowed in the

Officer and Committee Updates:

Miles: Next Neurodivergence meeting will be set in due course.

Debate:

This month's question: 'Are Zoos ethical?'

Points for Yes:

- Educational purposes
- Rehabilitation – able to save endangered species
- Life span of an animal in captivity is longer than in the wild
- Zoos are the best option for helping animals after the damage we have done to their habitats

Points for No:

- Animals aren't in their natural environment
- There is a difference between sanctuaries and zoos
- Lots of funding for zoos goes towards the attraction rather than the animals
- Animals will soon lose their natural instincts if kept in captivity

There was a group of 'Maybe', of which three joined 'Yes' after the debate. Well done to the 'Yes' section for giving a convincing argument.

Welcome and Introduction from Colin Ansell:

Colin is the new Chief Executive of Southend and gave a speech about joining the council. Part of his role is leading debate, of which he complimented the YC's debate. He believes the YC is the heartbeat of youth in Southend and a catalyst for change.

Active Essex – Tom Weller and Lee Monk:

The #MovewithUs campaign aims to get people – in particular young people and children – moving around Greater Essex.

They asked what barriers prevent Children and Young people getting active:

- School work/revision
- Financial situations

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body image and social stereotypes • Not enough motivation <p>‘How can we break these barriers?’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the activities and clubs in the local area • Making people aware of free activities • Group activities • Vary PE lessons <p>YC Members were given the opportunity to become #MovewithUs ambassadors</p>
<p>Marine Parade Greening Project – Councillor Maxine Sadza:</p> <p>This will be the first large scale Water Management Project in Southend. A presentation was delivered to members on the plans in place to prevent damage from rising sea levels in the future, as the current storm drains aren’t strong or frequent enough along the parade. This plan will cost around £2 billion, and aims to provide new green space and safety from erosion and flooding etc</p> <p>Members filled out a form with their feedback, of which all spoken to Cllr Maxine Sadza was positive.</p>
<p>Southend YMCA:</p> <p>Unfortunately they weren’t able to attend the meeting.</p>
<p>Make Your Mark:</p> <p>Reminder to all schools to hand in your votes.</p>
<p>Art Therapy Workshop:</p> <p>Mental health project run by Noah and Annali. Next Wednesday (13th March) at Labyrinth House, limited spaces available so sign up now!</p>
<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>No other business discussed</p>

If you have any queries, please contact: LucyBissell@southend.gov.uk or The Youth Mayor on: YouthMayor@Southend.gov.uk